

Michael O. Leavitt Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. **Executive Director**

Don A. Ostler, P.E.



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

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August 18, 1996

Ms. Elaine J. Dorward-King, Ph.D. Director, Environmental Affairs Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation 8315 West 3595 South Magna, Utah 84044-6001

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Water Quality Board Keith W. Welch Chairman Lynn F. Pett R. Rex Ausburn, P.E. David S. Bowles, Ph.D., Nan Bunker Leonard Ferguson Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D. Joe C. Nielson K.C. Shaw, P.E.

J. Ann Wechsler Leroy H. Wullstein, Ph.D. Don A. Ostler, P.E. Executive Secretary

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Dear Ms. Dorward-King:

Subject:

Approval for Continued Disposal of Waste Water Treatment Plant Discharge Flows; Kennecott Tailings Impoundment; Ground Water Discharge Permit No. UGW350011

In a February 26, 1996 letter to Kennecott, the Division of Water Quality provided approval to dispose of Waste Water Treatment Plant discharges in the Tailings Impoundment on a short term basis. Your letter of July 10, 1996, requested approval for more long term disposal of Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) discharges to the Tailings Impoundment based on operational problems with bringing the new Smelter on line. Included in your letter was a water quality analysis for the WWTP effluent and a flow estimate of approximately 110 gpm.

In order to provide ongoing monitoring of inflows to the Tailings Pond, quarterly water quality and flow data will be needed for this inflow. This monitoring requirement should be reflected in the Operational Monitoring Plan (Appendix B of the Tailings Impoundment Ground Water Discharge Permit [GWDP]) that is currently under review.

Accordingly, contingent upon Kennecott's inclusion of monitoring of WWTP inflows in the Operational Monitoring Plan for the Tailings Impoundment GWDP, and in accordance with the provisions of Part I Section E of the GWDP, Kennecott is approved to dispose of these flows in the Tailings Impoundment. Water quality and flow measurement will continue to be required until such time as WWTP flows cease.

Please contact John Whitehead (538-6053) if you have any questions on this approval.

Sincerely,

Utah Water Quality Board

Don A. Ostler, P.E. **Executive Secretary**

DAO:jw:wfm

cc:

Terry Sadler, Salt Lake County Health Wayne Hedberg, DOGM

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